

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 TRIPOL 00497 190625 Z

73

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 EB-11 COME-00 SCEM-02 INT-08 TRSE-00

OMB-01 CIEP-02 CU-04 NEA-10 SY-10 OPR-02 M-03 A-01

OC-06 CCO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12

RSR-01 /146 W

----- 109460

R 181520 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9945

C O N F I D E N T I A L TRIPOLI 0497

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG ELAB PINT LY

SUBJ: QADHAFI' S APRIL 16 HARANGUE AND THE OIL COMPANIES

REF: TRIPOLI 0489, FBIS 1236, APRIL 16

1. ON APRIL 18 AMOSEAS PRESIDENT GLOSS GAVE ECONOFF
RUNDOWN ON LATEST DEVELOPMENTS AFFECTING OIL COMPANIES
IN PART OF QADHAFI' S AZIZIYA BARRACKS SPEECH CALLING
FOR FORMATION OF " POPULAR COMMITTEES."

2. AFTERNOON OF APRIL 17, ASU SYG HAWADI VISITED
MOBIL AND SPOKE WITH COMPANY' S TEN- MAN ASU COMMITTEE.
MORNING OF APRIL 18 MBIL ASU CELL CHAIRMAN INFORMED
ACTING CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER LEDFORD (PRESIDENTT
WISEMAN OUT OF THE COUNTRY) THAT ASU WISHED TO HOLD
MASS MEETING AFTERNOON OF APRIL 18. AT SAME TIME HE
PRESENTED MOBIL WITH THREE DEMANDS:

A) CESSATION OF CODING OUTGOING MESSAGES. TO
ENSURE COMPLIANCE, ASU CELL MEMBER HAS BEEN STATIONED
AT CODE MACHINE;

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 TRIPOL 00497 190625 Z

TERMINATION ALL COMPANY FOREIGN SCHOLARSHIPS
AND TRAINING PROGRAMS; AND

C) DISCHARGE ANY EXPATRIATE WHO " AFFRONT" ANY
LIBYAN EMPLOYEE.

3. CURRENT SITUATION IN OTHER OIL COMPANIES AS
FOLLOWS: OCCIDENTAL: ASU CELL SCHEDULED TO MEET AT
1700 LOCAL APRIL 18. AMOSEAS, ESSO AND OASIS: ASU
CELLS ALSO SCHEDULED TO MEET APRIL 18 OR 19.

4. GLOSS EMPHASIZED THAT ASU DEMANDS ABU DHABI AND
QATAR WHO TOLD HIM LEBANESE BUSINESSMEN FREELY OFFERING
ARRANGE CONTRACTS WITH OMAN GOVT. SULTAN ORDERED INVEST-
GATION IMMEDIATELY ON RETURN WHICH RESULTED SOLID EVIDENCE
INCLUDING VERY LARGE UNEXPLAINABLE DEPOSITS IN RAIS' BEIRUT
BANK ACCOUNT. AFTER HE WAS FIRED, RAIS ATTEMPTED TO FORCE
MASS RESIGNATIONS OF CONSIDERABLE LEBANESE STAFF HE HAS BUILT
UP IN CENTER. MOST REMAIN, HOWEVER, AND IT IS NOW BELIEVED
THAT CENTER WILL BECOME MINISTRY ECONOMIC PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT
WITH EMPHASIS ON PLANNING.

3. RAIS DISMISSAL LEAVES JOHN TOWNSEND NOW UNCHALLENGED
AS ACTING FINANCE SECRETARY AND ALSO ECONOMIC ADVISER.
TOWNSEND TELLING FRIENDS HE RECEIVING STREAM OF CALLS FROM OMANI
AND EXPATRIATE BUSINESSMEN ANXIOUSLY ASKING WHETHER HE AWARE
OF THEIR CONTRACTS AND PROPOSALS.

4. DISMISSAL WILL PROBABLY BE GENERALLY APPROVED BECAUSE
RAIS DISLIKED BY OMANI CIVIL SERVANTS AS EMPIRE- BUILDER AND
POWER- GRABBER, BY OMANI PUBLIC WHICH FEARS INFLUX OF LEBANESE
MERCHANTS AND ADVISERS, AND BY BRITISH GOVERNMENT AND
BUSINESS CIRCLES WHO SEE RAIS AS SPEARHEAD OF AMERICAN- SAUDI
POLITICAL/ ECONOMIC INVASION. WILL HAVE MORE POSITIVE RESULT
OF RESOLVING STATUS TOWNSEND, WHO IS UNQUESTIONABLY CAPABLE,
INCORRUPTABLE AND FAIR.

5. DISMISSAL WILL NOT SOLVE PROBLEM CORRUPTION IN GOVT UNLESS
SULTAN' S CHIEF OF DIWAN AND MILITARY AIDE REPENT AND SIN NO
MORE; INDEED, INSIDERS NOW SAYING THAT RAIS HAD BEEN CROWDING
PALACE MOB OUT OF THE BIG ACTION. EVEN BIGGER QUESTION
NOW IS WHAT OF GHASSAN SHAKIR, SAUDI BUSINESSMAN CUM FOREIGN
POLICY ADVISER WHO WAS RAIS' SPONSOR WITH SULTAN. SHAKIR HAS
BEEN CREDITED WITH LEADING SULTAN INTO EXPENSIVE SOGEX HOTEL
SCHEME, SEVERAL LARGE ROAD AND CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS, AND
NATIONAL BANK OF OMAN CHARTER. (LATTER IS ABOUT 30 PERCENT
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 ABU DH 00494 190634 Z

BANK OF AMERICA). SULTAN REPORTEDLY NOW AWARE HE WAS BILKED ON SOGEX HOTEL, AND IT IS HINTED THAT GHASSAN SHAKIR HAS BEEN EXPOSED BY FORMER SHAKIR MOB CAPO FULATH HADIID, YOUNGISH IRAQI WHO WORKED WITH NOTORIOUS LIBYAN YAHYA OMAR IN ROME HEADQUARTERS OF SHAKIR MOB, AND WHO PROVIDED THE CONCLUSIVE EVIDENCE AGAINST DR. RIYADH. ANOTHER LESSER BUT KEY LEBANESE FIGURE IN SHAKIR CROWD IS FAROUK JABBAR WHO IS HONORARY OMANI CONSUL IN BEIRUT AND WHO IS KNOWN TO HAVE REQUESTED "FINDERS FEES" OF AMERICAN BUSINESSMEN INTERESTED IN OMANI GOVT CONTRACTS.

6. QUESTIONS MIGHT ALSO ARISE AS TO WHETHER SHAKIR WAS INVOLVED (AS IS WIDELY BELIEVED IN MUSCAT) IN THE SEVERAL LARGE AMERICAN CONTRACTS AND CONCESSIONS WITH OMAN GOVT ARRANGED IN PASY YEAR AND HALF. (NOT INCLUDED IS INTER-CONTINENTAL AGREEMENT, WHICH TOWNSEND HANDLED.) SHAKIR HAS HAD NO CONTACT WITH THIS EMBASSY, HOWEVER, AND NEITHER HE NOR RIYADH RAIS INVOLVED WITH PEACE CORPS AGREEMENT, PROPOSED USGS SURVEY OR OPIC PROPOSAL.
GRIFFIN

CONFIDENTIAL

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 APR 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: elyme
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973TRIPOL00497
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS JOIF
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: TRIPOLI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730445/aaaaircl.tel
Line Count: 142
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 73 TRIPOLI 489
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: elyme
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04 DEC 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <04-Dec-2001 by shawdg>; APPROVED <15-Jan-2002 by elyme>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> srp 980122
Subject: QADHAFI' S APRIL 16
TAGS: ELAB, ENRG, PINT, LY
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005